



THE DOMINANT NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1 JULY 2011



MCM CREW DOMINANT ON DEPLOYMENT

MCM CREW DOMINANT arrived in Bahrain on May 21st and boarded USS SCOUT (MCM 8) to begin hull turnover with MCM CREW BULWARK. The following morning our DOMINANT men began running through their checklists with their counterparts and hull turnover began. It had been just over a year since DOMINANT had last operated SCOUT and many things had changed. Our sailors quickly familiarized themselves with their old ship and completed the turnover in just four days.



USS SCOUT conducting astern refueling with USNS JOSHUA HUMPHREYS on June 6th, 2011.

After wishing CREW BULWARK a safe flight home, we took SCOUT to sea and commenced Crew Indoc-EX on May 28th. We swiftly got on task and began to complete the series of required evolutions over the following two weeks while being evaluated by Assessors from the Afloat Training Group (ATG) Pacific. Maintaining DOMINANT's outstanding reputation, our Sailors met each task with poise and completed them. After demonstrating our proficiency, we were brought into SHAMAL 11-2, a combined exercise that covers all facets of maritime warfare. SCOUT was assigned to Combined Task Force 52 as part of a multi-national mine clearance force. We operated with two fellow US minesweepers and four MH-53 mine hunting helicopters from HELMINERON FIFTEEN DET TWO. In addition to the US forces, we worked alongside four British mine sweepers and their auxiliary ship that acted as the task force command and supply ship. Following the completion of the successful exercise, SCOUT embarked an US EOD team to assist with mine shape recovery efforts. By the completion of the exercise SCOUT carried four mine shapes back to Bahrain for refurbishment and future use.

While in port, DOMINANT completed a successful Safety Survey with inspectors from the Naval Safety Center in Norfolk, VA, then headed back to sea to hone our Mine Warfare skills and conduct an underway detonation for crew proficiency. We finished up June with unit level training and continued to improve SCOUT's overall material readiness.

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CO's COMMENTS

Greetings, Crew DOMINANT family and friends! After completing the long flight from San Diego to Bahrain, we've been back on USS SCOUT (MCM 8) now for a little over a month and are getting used to the routine of operations here in the Arabian Gulf. The temperatures are hot and the air thick. When we arrived, the thermometers showed 107 degrees in the shade. We're also in the middle of our second 'Al Barch,' or Arabian Gulf sand storm. It makes keeping SCOUT clean and working a task, but the crew is tackling it in stride and has already earned a reputation on the waterfront that sets them apart from all of the other MCMs.



Our tasking over the first few weeks was to complete Commander, Task Force 52's crew indoctrination exercise which we just finished last week. During the second week of 'INDOCEX,' as it's called, we were called in to take the place of another MCM for exercise SHAMAL, 2011. The crew stepped up to the challenge of participating in a multi-force, multi-national mine countermeasures exercise spreading across the Central Arabian Gulf, all after being in theater only 2 weeks... and did so very successfully. A job well done to your crewmember; it was an all hands effort!

There are several more underway periods coming up including a couple of port visits and a dedicated maintenance period to get some needed repairs accomplished. This is all before we take SCOUT into the dry dock here for her scheduled overhaul at the end of the summer. The tempo in Fifth Fleet is faster than in San Diego since we are part of a dedicated mine countermeasure force that must remain ready to go to sea to respond to any threat with less than 48 hours notice. It amounts to more time underway with the time spent in port used to get the ship ready for sea again. It's busy, but it seems to make the time go by faster.

I'd like to close by welcoming a few new members of the crew: LTjg Adam Sezate, our new Damage Control Assistant; ENS Ed Montgomery, our new CICO Officer; ENC(SW) James Strong, our new Main Propulsion Assistant; HT1(SW) Alan Page; ET1(SW) Ray Preston; MNSN Ryan Lewand; ENFN Justin Peterman; CSSA Edelmiro Garcia; and last but not least, CSSA Justin Reuter. Welcome to the MCM Crew DOMINANT family!

Before I say goodbye for this issue, I encourage you to contact our command OMBUDSMAN, Mrs. Luttrell, if you have any questions or concerns while we're deployed. Her phone number is (858)232-5686. Thank you for your support!

G. P. Lorio
Commanding Officer

"DOMINANT IN BATTLE"

XO's POST

Looking back over the past six months it is simply amazing what Crew DOMINANT has been able to accomplish through teamwork, perservance and a constant "Will-Do" attitude along with the support from you, their family members. Our men took USS CHAMPION back to sea, performed beyond expectations at INSURV and then completed our training cycle in record time allowing us to deploy on time ready for tasking. And that is exactly the same manner your Sailors have performed since we arrived in Bahrain. From the moment they boarded USS SCOUT they began making it their ship again. In DOMINANT form, we swiftly maneuvered through our Crew Indoc-EX and executed the tasking assigned during our first

SEL's BLOG

Whoohoo! Now that the long flights and jet lag are over, our Sailors' are settling down into the routine of shipboard life in Bahrain. This is only the beginning of long hot sandy days on deployment, with temperatures ranging from 96 to 105°F daily. Our clock starts early and we have completed several major tasks supporting the 5th Fleet AOR. Thanks for all



BMCS(SW/AW) Bernard observing from the O3 Level during Junior Officer ship handling training.

Combined Exercise, SHAMAL 11-2.

Working alongside the British minesweeper force stationed in Bahrain, we collectively completed all objectives. Our men

then returned to port and completed a very successful Safety Survey assessed by the Naval Safety Center. We closed out June with unit level training at sea.

Thank you for your continual support!



the support throughout our last couple of month in San Diego. It helped us achieved success in 4 major inspections!

Whoohoo! It's Summer time back in States. So whether you are planning to enjoy your vacation at home or on the road, don't forget about all of the travel, lodging, events and recreation benefits offered to you through MWR. You can receive help planning your trip, learning about attractions, saving money through discounts and military deals as well as reduced costs for rentals like game equipment and picnic items. So, before running off to your next activity, check your local MWR. Enjoy your day - You've earned every moment of it!



CHENG's PIT

After traveling over eight thousand miles from San Diego to Bahrain, we are finally on station carrying out the Navy's mission. This could not have happened without the hard work and dedication from the engineer's on the deck plates "getting it done" and the continued support and understanding from our friends and families back home.

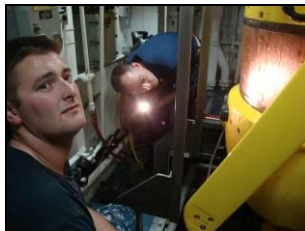
Since taking over SCOUT, DOMINANT engineers have been staying busy maintaining and conducting repairs to the generators, main engines, and



Engineman Rating Badge

OPS's STAND

After months of arduous training in San Diego, Operations Department is finally operating in theatre!



MN3 Wiggins presents the sonar to the CO. His tireless effort has been essential in repairing our sonar.

Your Sailors have worked hard to bring our new hull up to the standards they set on USS CHAMPION. We have fit in a lot of work and training into our first month here and a lot more work lies before us. But with the



EN1 Munoz and EN3 Machado discussing maintenance actions in Central Control Station.

electrical system while making significant improvements to the engineering plant material readiness. Even with on going repairs, they have excelled in completing numerous engineering qualifications. Bravo Zula shout outs go to: LTJG Johnston – Surface Warfare Officer, LTJG Carnecer –

Surface Warfare Officer, IC1 Simmons – Engineering Officer of the Watch, EN1 Munoz – Electrical Plant Operator, IC2 Herm – Electrical Plant Operator, EN3 Hailey – Auxiliary Machinery Room Operator, DC3 McFarland – Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist, and ENFN Oladapo – Main Machinery Operator.

Welcome aboard ENC Strong and HT1 Page. Only onboard a short time they have made an immediate impact within the engineering department and command.

From all the DOMINANT Engineers "Thank you for your support, understanding, and the job you fill back home! We look forward to seeing you all soon!"

quality of our Sailors no task is too hard for us. An upcoming port visit to Dubai does promise some well deserved R&R.



Deck Division deploying a make-shift target for night time crew served weapons training.

Thank you for your support and sacrifice back home, we look forward to fulfilling our mission and returning home!



MNSN Arrand, MN3 Rakestraw, MN2 Schmidt, and MNC Stone proudly show off recovered training mines on the fantail.

Welcome aboard ENS Edward Montgomery, our new Combat officer. As a prior Operations Specialist Chief, he will fit right into the mix!



Mineman Rating Badge

"DOMINANT IN BATTLE"

SUPPO's BIN

The month of June found Crew DOMINANT'S supply department picking right up where it left off. After a successful Supply Management Certification to end our time in San Diego the entire department has looked to continue to build on all of the knowledge we

gained. We are excited to



CSSN Garcia serving LSC Domaol dinner on June 17th.

announce the addition of two new members to S2 division, CSSN Garcia and CSSN Reuter. Welcome Aboard! The department is back up to full strength. Supply will be in high gear for the rest of deployment looking to support the crew in any we can.

RECOGNITION STAGE

PROMOTIONS

LTJG Brown, LTJG Carnecer, LTJG Johnston, LTJG Reilly, MN2(SW) Cadigan, IC2 Herm, EN3 Hailey, MN3 Zamora.

AWARDEES

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal Recipients:

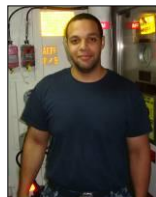
EN2 Ando, EN2(SW) Diaz, IC2 Herm, ET2 Martire, EM2(SW) McMaster, EM2(SW/AW) Rodriquez, MN2 Schmidt, MN2(SW) Williammee, EN2(SW) Willis, MN3(SW) Chickering, QM3(SW) Johnnie, MN3 Moreno, DC3(SW) McFarland, EN3(SW) Milhoan, MN3 Rakestraw, EN3 Smothers, MN3 Wiggins, MNSN Hoffman.

Senior Sailor of the Quarter



EN1 Munoz

Junior Sailor of the Quarter



EM2(SW/AW) Rodriquez

Blue Jacket of the Quarter



EN3 Hailey

WARFARE QUALIFICATIONS

Surface Warfare Officer:

LTJG Brown, LTJG Carnecer, LTJG Johnston.

Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist:

DC3(SW) McFarland

HAILS



LTJG Sezate



ENS Montgomery



ENC Strong



HT1 Page



ET1 Preston



CSSA Garcia



MNSN Lewand



ENFN Peterman
& CSSA Reuter

FAREWELLS

LTJG Kappel, LTJG Mills, MN2(SW) Williammee, DC3(SW) McFarland.